



1—Delegation of Syrian residents of Brazil with plaque of carved Cretanian wood stained with diamonds, which they presented to President Wilson. 2—Scene at the wedding of Prince Conrad of Bavaria and Princess Rona of Savoy, Italy—the first royal international marriage between citizens of former enemy states since the war. 3—Grove Park Inn at Asheville, N. C., where Vice President-elect Coolidge is spending part of his vacation.

NEWS REVIEW OF CURRENT EVENTS

Germany Says She Will Not Pay the Reparations Fixed by Supreme Council.

'WOULD ENSLAVE THE NATION'

Putting on Poor Face for Effect—American Unpreparedness Receives Some Blows—Dawes Vigorously Condemns War Management Critics—Latest Cabinet Guesses.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD.

Germany says she neither can nor will pay the total of reparations that was fixed by the supreme council—54 billions in 42 years and a tax of 12 per cent on her exports during the period. Eminent financial and economic experts of the allied countries and America agree that Germany will find it impossible to pay that sum and survive. Nevertheless, it is probable that the German representatives in the forthcoming London conference will sign the agreement laid before them, and that the allies thereafter will get from the defeated country as great a proportion of the 54 billions as they can, modifying the terms from time to time.

The official protest of Germany was voiced by Dr. Walter Simons, the foreign minister, and what he said was concurred in by the reichstag parties through their leaders, with the exception of the ultra radicals, who gloried in the painful position of the government. Doctor Simons asserted that the obligations that imposed on the Germans would mean the complete economic enslavement of the people, and particularly of the workers. He said the government would offer counter proposals at the London meeting.

Among the people of France there was satisfaction with the reparations plan, especially because it was expected that the first effective payments by Germany will make available for negotiations or for use as security the French share of the 90,000,000,000 gold marks in bonds already delivered by Germany to the reparations commission. Great Britain has agreed not to utilize her claim on Germany as a basis for loans during the next five years, and this gives France the opportunity to make use not only of her share of the bonds but also her part of the 12 per cent tax on Germany's exports, to raise money to continue the work of reconstruction in northern France.

That tax on German exports is a feature that may cause a lot of trouble. By many it is held to be false economy that will react to the injury of other countries, and in Washington there is talk that our state department may feel called on to make formal protest. Lloyd George says the tax would be easy to collect, and he defends the plan in its entirety. If Germany should absolutely refuse to do it, he asserts, "there is nothing for us to do but to apply the treaty literally."

That opinion favoring German claims in the matter may be based on false premises is made clear by the report of the conference of financial experts held in Brussels, in which Germany is shown just how to wipe out the deficit of 70,000,000,000 marks in her 1920 budget. The experts found Germany was deliberately putting on a poor face for the purpose of showing the world her precarious financial condition and her difficulty in raising money. Her expenses were multiplied 75 times over those of 1919, and certain of her taxes vastly below those the people of the allied countries are paying. Furthermore, the budgets of 1919 and 1920 carried a number of credits which were not repaid. It will run for six months at least, because 1,010,100 pesos has been guaranteed the state government of Chihuahua for the concession. One-half of this sum will be turned back to the city of Juarez and most of it will be spent in improving schools in Juarez.

Public lotteries have been running for three months. They are known as federal direct lotteries, being under the direct supervision of the federal government, which disposes of the lottery proceeds for 25 per cent of the proceeds. One just held was for \$100,000 gold and included the northern district of Chihuahua. Many Americans

SPLIT OVER NAVAL "HOLIDAY"

Japanese Statesmen Divided on Question of Curtailment of Expenditures for Armament.

Tokio—Proposals that Japan agree with other world powers to restrict armaments, which were recently submitted to the Kensei-Kai, or opposition party, by Yukio Ozaki, a prominent member of the organization, have been referred to a committee of eleven members of the party. It

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STATE SIFTINGS

Akron reports 34 burglaries during January.

Dr. W. S. Ritenour, Dayton, was found dead near his automobile. Captain John W. Thornburg, 78, retired river man, died at Gallipoli. Leroy Dove died at Warren from gunshot wounds received while hunting.

Frank L. Brown, 71, former mayor of Youngstown, died after a long illness.

Thiffin Eagles' home was destroyed by fire, originating in an overheated furnace.

Toledo stock board sold \$4,000,000 worth of bonds to a syndicate headed by Stacy & Braun, Toledo.

Youngstown and Suburban railway reduced wages of common laborers from \$4.00 to \$3.50 an hour.

Findlay council increased salaries of street commissioner, service director and other officials.

Ashtabula Moore plans to erect a \$30,000 home with combined roof garden and theater seating 2,000.

Mrs. Ellen Gullum, 25, Marietta, was fatally burned when her dress caught fire from an open grate.

Ohio house adopted the Hopkey senate resolution providing for an investigation of the state highway department.

Billy Sunday revival meetings to be held at Cincinnati have been insured against failure with an insurance company.

Youngstown steel plant at Niles operating at about 50 per cent of capacity, according to L. O. Wilkoff, president.

Reduction of 10 per cent in the value of real property in Clark county has been ordered by the county commissioners.

Robert Smith filed suit at Cleveland for \$15,000 against John D. Toaker, whose dog, he claims, attacked and injured him.

J. H. Crawford, Findlay police chief, returned to duty after having been suspended several days on a charge of neglect of duty.

After providing food enough to last his horse several days, John Wank, 62, Canton, shot and killed himself while despondent.

Lawrence A. Pugh, Kenton police chief, was suspended for 10 days by Fred Baerische, safety director, who charges malfeasance in office.

Youngstown chamber of commerce asked council to investigate high rents after complaints were made that landlords are "hiking" rents.

Redeemer Evangelical Lutheran church, Cuyahoga Falls, was dedicated by Rev. William J. Single.

Total cost of the structure was \$40,000. Charred body of Arthur Cornell, 28, grocer, was found by firemen in the ruins of his store at Akron. Cornell's wife identified his body by a signet ring.

Carl Milligan, 15, negro, admitted to police that he shot and killed John Koperski at Toledo several weeks ago over the possession of a skunk pelt.

Cambridge board of trade plans to ask the state highway department to straighten the "S" bridge on the National pike at "Bridgeton" for protection of motorists.

Canton officials are planning an investigation of conditions in the police department, which was the result of a former police officer on a charge of receiving whisky.

Michael Mullen, who represented his ward in city council for 32 years, died at Cincinnati of pneumonia. He was 64 years old. He was a well known Republican politician.

Resources of the 767 Ohio banks subject to state supervision were \$1,518,679,451 at the close of 1920. This is an increase of \$231,000,000 over the resources at the close of 1919.

Alleged hidden assets of approximately \$1,000 were turned over to the creditors at Findlay by Ernest Baker and Arthur Kohler, Kenton, members of a bankrupt shoe firm.

Eugene Turner, 32, of Cleveland, admitted at Akron that he sold two barrels of rainwater instead of whisky to a policeman for \$2.98.

Turner was sentenced to one to three years in the penitentiary.

Edwin Jones, 58, former chairman of the Republican state executive committee and candidate for the Republican nomination for governor of Ohio in 1918, died at Columbus after a lingering illness, due to cancer. His home was at Jackson.

Unemployed in Ohio cities seem determined not to go to work on farms. N. E. Shaw, secretary of the department of agriculture, said. Farmers, offering to hire men at wages below those paid last year are receiving little or no response, according to Shaw.

Darius J. Burnham of Mechanicsburg was named receiver for the Wing Seed company of Mechanicsburg, upon application of Charles B. Wing, president and general manager of the concern. The liabilities of the company are placed at \$200,000 by Mr. Wing.

Federal agents swooped down on Middletown saloons and gathered in six saloonists and four bartenders on the charge of illicit sale and possession of intoxicating liquor.

Le V. Building and Loan company at Ripley, was sentenced to the penitentiary after pleading guilty to filing a false report with state officials.

An increase in the number of cases of sleeping sickness in Cleveland within two weeks from 10 to 18, with nine deaths from the disease in January, was reported by Dr. H. L. Rockwood, city health commissioner.

Refusing to accept a wage increase of \$5 a week after demanding \$9, 300 members of the Van Drivers' union, Cleveland, went on strike.

John McLean, who was acquitted at Cleveland of a first degree murder charge, he was accused of the murder of William Stillwell on Nov. 7 last.

Suit for \$250,000 for alleged alienation of affections is on file at Cleveland against Mrs. Mabel H. Parsons of Lakewood. Mrs. Lillian P. Shattuck charges that her husband's affections were alienated by Mrs. Parsons.

Five masked men entered a house on the Dixie highway, near Middletown, where it is alleged a gambling game was in progress, and robbed 22 occupants of \$2,500.

Three men and a woman are held at Toledo following the fatal shooting of Peter Fedchenia, 38, who was killed while accompanying federal agents in a prohibition raid.

C. G. Finley, Pennsylvania engineer, who was injured when a passenger train went into the ditch near Bloomfield, died in Tiffin. W. E. Ritter of Toledo, firing Finley's engine, was but slightly burned.

IMPROVED UNIFORM INTERNATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

By REV. F. B. FITZWATER, D. D., Teacher of English Bible in the Moody Bible Institute of Chicago.

(65, 1250, Western Newspaper Union.)

LESSON FOR FEBRUARY 20

THE WISE AND FOOLISH VIRGINS.

LESSON TEXT—Matt. 25:1-13. GOLDEN TEXT—Watch therefore: for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of Man cometh.—Matt. 25:13.

REFERENCE MATERIAL.—Matt. 25:1-13; Luke 12:35-40; 1 Tim. 5:17-18. PRIMARY TOPIC—Being Ready. JUNIOR TOPIC—Being Ready. INTERMEDIATE AND SENIOR TOPIC—Parables of Jesus. YOUNG PEOPLE AND ADULT TOPIC—Christian Watchfulness.

This lesson is a part of the well known Old Testament, giving a prophetic view of the course of time from the utterance, just before the crucifixion, to the second advent of Christ. The order of events in that time are, roughly speaking, as follows:

1. The moral condition of the world during Christ's absence (24:1-14). This is the period covered by the parable of chapter 13.

2. The appearance of the Antichrist (24:15-26).

3. The great advent (24:27-31), in which there will be mighty convulsions of nature, the mourning of the earth's tribes, and the gathering of the elect.

4. Warnings to God's people in view of the great advent (24:32-51), the time of advent unknown and unexpected.

5. Instructions to saints in view of the unexpectedness of His coming (25:1-13).

6. The judgment of the nations (25:31-46).

The present lesson is one of the two parables designed for the instruction of the saints in view of the coming of the Christ. It has a continuing application in the present time (Thess. 4:13-15; Titus 2:11-13).

1. The Foolish Virgins Took Lamp But No Oil With Them. (v. 1).

Lamps signify Christian profession (Matt. 5:16), and oil, the Holy Spirit (Zech. 4). Having the lamps and no oil shows that they were professors of religion without "possessing" its reality. As soon as a man is regenerated the Holy Spirit takes up His abode with him. The proof that one is a child of God is that he has the Holy Spirit dwelling within him. "If any man have not the Spirit of Christ he is none of His." (Rom. 8:9). The foolish virgins may have been of good moral character, but they were unregenerated.

2. The wise virgins possessed both lamps and oil (v. 4). They made a profession and backed it with a real life of righteousness. These are the true believers. Both the wise and the foolish virgins slumbered and slept. Their eyes had grown heavy and they fell under the spell of sleep (v. 5). This shows that as the Christian church would cease looking for the coming of the Lord. It is unspeakably sad that so many even of God's saints were virgins, should give up the expectancy of the return of the Lord.

3. The Coming Bridegroom (vv. 6-12).

1. The midnight cry (v. 6). In the midst of the night when all were asleep the cry was made, "Behold the bridegroom cometh, ye go out to meet him." How sad it is that the church has lost her hope, is not waking and watching for the return of her Lord.

2. Activity of the virgins (vv. 7-12). They all arose and trimmed their lamps. There will be great activity when the Lord comes, on the part of both the real Christians and those who only make a profession. The professing Christians will then realize that they lack that which is essential to entrance to the marriage feast.

3. The foolish request the wise to share their oil (vv. 8, 9). The revelation of Christ will make manifest the genuineness of our religion and expose the folly of mere profession. When the Lord comes it will be too late to mend one's ways.

4. The wise came to the marriage (v. 10). While the foolish were seeking to amend their ways trying to buy oil, the bridegroom came and those who were ready were admitted to the marriage.

5. The pitiful position of the foolish (v. 11). They begged the Lord to open the door that they might enter to the marriage feast. No one can open that door but the Lord.

6. The awful judgment (v. 12). The Lord declares "I know you not." Those who put off the personal contact with Jesus until that day shall be shut out from the presence of Christ.

III. The Solemn Obligation (v. 13). "Watch, for ye know not the day nor the hour when the Son of Man cometh." Let these two facts be impressed upon the minds of everyone:

1. One's entering with Christ into the marriage depends not upon having entered the Christian race, but continuing therein. It is not enough that one can refer to the light of one's lamp if it will be wanting when Christ comes there will be no admittance to the heavenly banquet.

2. Borrowed religion will not avail at that day. It is good to have good companions and associates, but they cannot supply us with grace. Association with the most eminent of God's saints will not secure for us acceptance that day. There must be a personal contact with the Lord Jesus Christ through faith in His blood.

Evil Spreads.

There is no sort of wrong deed of which a man can hear the punishment: you can't isolate yourself, and say that the evil which is in you shall not spread. Men's lives are as thoroughly blended with each other as the air they breathe; evil spreads as necessarily as disease. Every sin causes suffering to others besides those who commit it.—George Eliot.

No One Absolute.

God has made no one absolute. The rich depend on the poor, as well as the poor on the rich. The world is but a magnificent building, all the stones are gradually cemented to gether. No one subsists by himself alone.—Fethallah.

Must Deal With Sin.

We may forget or ignore Him, or keep our minds from dwelling on the thought of Him; we cannot be entering into peace with Him while sin is kept unadvised with, cherished in our hearts.

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